Humanities 1202 course outline

Assignments in the course: you’ll do one research presentation (a PowerPoint or similar presentation or a video, not a paper), three essays in which you discuss a cultural event you attend, a total of 15 online discussions with your classmates (three per unit, roughly one a week), and a total of five tests (one per unit; the final exam is just the test for the last unit). Details on these assignments can be found in the Assignment Information folder on the course front page.

Readings: everything is available online; the book and some auxiliary readings that you’ll do for the discussions. You’ll also read all of your classmates’ presentations (about 5-6 per unit) because the last discussion in each unit is based on those presentations. By the way, the chapter numbers that we’re covering start with Chapter 12. Don’t worry about that; HUMN 1201 does Chapters 1-12, and we start with 12, but you absolutely do not have to take HUMN 1201. That class is early Humanities; this course is more modern Humanities. That’s all.

Tests: the tests are multiple choice and open book. They are timed, however; you won’t be able to look everything up while you’re taking them, and you definitely won’t be able to read for the first time while you take a test. Read the chapters first (download them to your computer to save time re-opening the files if you need them), then take the test.

How I grade: I grade all of your assignments on a rubric (a chart that shows what I’m looking for). I have different ones for the different kinds of assignments, and you can find them in the Assignment Information folder on the class front page. I try to be very clear so you can decide what grade you want and see what you’ll need to do to earn it.

To-do list for the semester:

1. Unit 1: The Renaissance
   a. Chapters 12, 13, 14
      i. Syllabus sign-off
      ii. Introductions
      iii. Presentation topic sign-up (those who volunteer to do a presentation in the first unit get a chance to revise after I grade it if they want to)
      iv. Discussion 1: The Reformation
      v. Discussion 2: Shakespeare (reading or viewing a play required)
      vi. Presentations (for those who sign up to do a topic in this unit)
      vii. Discussion 3: Presentations
      viii. Unit 1 test

2. Unit 2: The Baroque and the Enlightenment
   a. Chapters 15 and 16
      i. Cultural Event 1
      ii. Discussion 4: The Baroque
      iii. Discussion 5: The Enlightenment (requires reading a website and “The Declaration of Independence”)
      iv. Presentations (for those who sign up to do a topic in this unit)
      v. Discussion 6: Presentations
      vi. Unit 2 test
3. Unit 3: India, China and Japan
   a. Chapter 19
      i. Cultural Event 2
      ii. Discussion 7: Top Ten Landmarks in the Humanities in this unit
      iii. Discussion 8: Love of nature in the arts of Japan, China, and India
      iv. Presentations (for those who sign up to do a topic in this unit)
      v. Discussion 9: Presentations
   vi. Unit 3 test

4. Unit 4: Cultures of Africa
   a. Chapter 20
      i. Cultural Event 3
      ii. Discussion 10: Top Ten Landmarks in the Humanities in this unit
      iv. Presentations (for those who sign up to do a topic in this unit)
      v. Discussion 12: Presentations
      vi. Unit 4 test

5. Unit 5: The Twentieth Century
   a. Chapters 21 and 22
      ii. Discussion 14: Top Ten Landmarks in the Humanities in this unit
      iii. Presentations (for those who sign up to do a topic in this unit)
      iv. Discussion 15: Presentations
      v. Final exam (just another test; covers Unit 5 only)